

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 and 6 are now pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Inoue (U.S. 2005/0242560).

The present application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application JP2002-206537, filed on July 16, 2002, and to JP2003-144845, filed on May 22, 2003.

Applicants are filing concurrently herewith certified copies of these two patent documents, as well as their certified translations in the English language, in order to perfect the claims of priority.

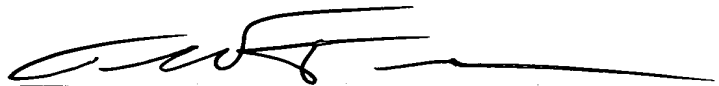
Accordingly, the present application antedates the cited reference, which is no longer available as a proper reference under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicants thus respectfully submit that claims 1, 3 and 6 are now allowable.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038917.55830US).

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Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey D. Sanok
Registration No. 32,169

Paolo M. Trevisan
Registration No. 45,164

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JDS:PMT:pcb
dn#5362135